

**REMARKS**

Claims 10-16 are all of the claims pending in the present application; claims 10-12 stand rejected; claims 13-16 are objected to.

Claims 10-12 are hereby cancelled without prejudice to pursuing the same in a continuation application.

Claims 13-14 and 16 have been amended to place them in independent format. These claims have only been amended to incorporate the subject matter of the claims from which claims 13-14 and 16 depended.

No new matter has been added. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

As claims 13-16 are only objected to based on their dependency on rejected independent base claims, amendment of these claims to place them in independent format is believed to overcome all remaining rejections or objections with regard to these claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

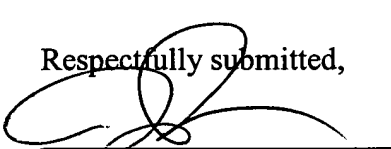
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

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Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: September 14, 2004